

House Resolution 785

By: Representatives Heard of the 114th, McKillip of the 115th, and Smith of the 113th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring and remembering the life of educator Howard Burnette Stroud; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Howard Burnette Stroud was born in Athens, Georgia, to the late George
4 Edward and Emma Mae Flanigan Stroud on March 31, 1930; and

5 WHEREAS, after his honorable service in the United States army, Mr. Stroud earned his
6 master's degree from Morehouse College in Atlanta and taught in Clarke County Schools
7 before attaining further degrees at Atlanta University; and

8 WHEREAS, in addition to teaching, Howard served Clarke County Schools in such
9 administrative capacities as counselor, principal, associate superintendent, acting
10 superintendent, and middle school and high school coordinator; and

11 WHEREAS, he carried himself with the utmost dignity and compassion and lived according
12 to the personal motto, "There's nothing greater for me than to serve my fellow man. I feel
13 compelled to make my community the best it can be"; and

14 WHEREAS, he became a member of Mount Pleasant Baptist Church at an early age and
15 served faithfully as a deacon and chairman of the Deacon Board; and

16 WHEREAS, as a result of his passion for community involvement, he served as a board
17 member of Athens Regional Medical Center for 20 years, presiding as chairman for several
18 years, and was an active participant of such civic organizations as the Classic City Center
19 Authority, the Athens Technical Institute Board of Directors, the East Athens Development
20 Corporation, the Clarke County NAACP, Kappa Alpha Psi, the Morton Theatre Corporation,
21 the Athens Symphony, and the Athens Area Retired Teachers Association; and

1 WHEREAS, his professional skills led him to serve various boards beyond his local
2 community, including the National Association of Educators, the National Alliance of Black
3 School Educators, the National Association of Middle School Principals, and the United Way
4 of Northeast Georgia; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Stroud's leadership was instrumental in carrying Clarke County Schools
6 through the tense period of integration, and he is credited with bringing the Academic
7 Decathlon to the State of Georgia; and

8 WHEREAS, he was the first recipient of the Howard B. Stroud Leadership Award, which
9 was named in his honor, and his numerous accolades include the Community Service Award
10 in recognition of his outstanding leadership and many selfless contributions to his fellow
11 man; and

12 WHEREAS, his immense dedication to his community was surpassed only by his loving
13 devotion to his family, and he is survived by his loving wife, Bettye; son, Howard, Jr.;
14 daughter, Kesha; brothers, George, Jr., Charles, and Melvin; sisters, Erma Martin and
15 Barbara Benton; brother-in-law, Ronald Baker; aunt, Matilda Watson; three grandchildren;
16 one great-grandchild; and numerous other relatives, students, colleagues, and friends; and

17 WHEREAS, in life he was an immeasurable source of strength and encouragement for
18 several generations of Georgians; at his death it is fitting and proper that we offer our
19 sympathies to his family and friends.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
21 the members of this body honor the life of this distinguished Georgia educator and servant
22 of the community, Howard Burnette Stroud, express their deepest regret at his passing, and
23 extend their most sincere condolences to his family.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
25 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Howard
26 Burnette Stroud.